



MEDIA RELEASE

Rapist Arrested

Victim 14-Years Old

SANTA BARBARA, CA – June 11, 2012

On May 30, 2012, SBPD Officer Kyle Lowry conducted a rape investigation involving a fourteen-year old female victim. His investigation revealed that prior to the crime, which occurred in mid-May, the victim had just been kicked out of her house in Goleta following an argument with her parents. At approximately 7:25 p.m. the victim walked to an MTD bus stop on 5600 Hollister Avenue with the intention of taking a bus to downtown Santa Barbara, where she hoped to spend the night with her best friend's family. The victim had never taken a bus before and was unsure of the exact address of her friend's house. The victim was in possession of a cell phone, however did not know her friend's phone number.

While at the bus stop the victim was befriended by the suspect, later identified as Rogaciano Rodriguez Mayo, age 28. Mayo agreed to help the victim locate her friend's residence downtown. The victim and Mayo rode the bus and exited on 300 W. Carrillo Street. The victim walked with Mayo to his residence on 400 Ruth Avenue, believing that after going there Mayo would help her find her friend's house. Instead, while at the residence Mayo raped the victim. As the crime was occurring the victim received a phone call from her best friend, however Mayo would not let her answer. After she had been raped the victim returned her friend's call and told her what had happened. The victim's friend told her to go to Macy's Department Store, where she would pick up the victim. Mayo walked with the victim to Macy's and waited with her there until the victim's best friend and her friend's father arrived.

Crimes against Persons Detective Brian Larson conducted the follow-up investigation in this case. On June 6, 2012, at 5:17 p.m. he and Detective Charlie Katsapis contacted Mayo while he was working at Alpha Thrift located at 5624 Hollister Avenue, which is in close proximity to the bus stop where Mayo met the victim. The detectives recognized Mayo based on the account of him provided by the victim, which included the description of a prominent tattoo. Mayo was questioned at the scene and he acknowledged having sex with the victim and knowing that it was illegal. He repeatedly stated in Spanish, "I get carried away." The detectives noticed in dismay that Mayo seemed surprised to be getting arrested.

Mayo was booked at Santa Barbara County Jail for the following felonies: rape by force or fear, rape of a victim under 16 years of age by a suspect 21 years of age or older, digital penetration of a victim under 16 years of age by a suspect over 21 years of age, and sexual battery while the victim is restrained. Additionally, Mayo was booked for the misdemeanor of cruelty to a child. His bail amount is \$100,000.00.

The victim in this case has been taken into protective custody by Santa Barbara County Child Welfare Services and is being assisted by advocates from the Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center.



Mayo, Rogaciano Rodriguez

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